From: Nancy Nieboer

Date: Mon, Apr 11, 2011 at 4:36 PM

Subject: Integrity of North Coast community of interest

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

Commissioners:

A suggestion was made at the 9 April meeting in Redding to simply draw a line west to east using the southern boundary of Humboldt County as a starting point. With respect to the speaker who presented this notion, this fails to consider the nature of the coastal counties of Humboldt, Del Norte and Mendocino. They have much more in common with each other than they have with the inland counties of the North State.

These counties are divided from their neighboring counties to the east by the coastal range, which becomes problematic for travel during rainy winter weather, as the roads are prone to icy conditions and landslides.

The coastal counties are dependent on tourism, fishing, agriculture (including trees, dairy products, beef, vineyards, flowers, grains, vegetables and even milled lumber), etc. and are more closely connected with cities to the south than the region to the east.

Since the speaker who made the suggestion was straightforward in stating his desire to be the congressman from the North State, he clearly has a vested interest in making this suggestion. As a nonpartisan resident of Humboldt County, I encourage the CRC to retain the counties of Del Norte, Humboldt and Mendocino as the community of common interest they represent.

Thank you for your thoughtful attention to this challenging redistricting task. I especially appreciate being able to watch the discussions online.

Nancy A. Nieboer